## HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF HAWAII ON THE 25<sup>TH</sup>
ANNIVERSARY OF ITS HAWAII BUSINESS HALL OF FAME AND ITS
2015 LAUREATES.

WHEREAS, community service provides a great foundation for people to connect with one another and develop mutually-beneficial relationships; non-profit organizations are outstanding supporters of community service, working diligently to give back to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Junior Achievement is one of the world's largest and best managed economic education partnership programs; over 6 million students across all 50 states participate in its experiential, hands-on programs in economic and business development; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1957, Junior Achievement of Hawaii (JA Hawaii) strives to educate and encourage the younger generation to value free enterprise, business, and economics; JA Hawaii teaches the importance of financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship to Hawaii's future generations in order to foster a competitive future workforce in the State; and

WHEREAS, each year, JA Hawaii sponsors the Hawaii Business Hall of Fame, which recognizes local business leaders for their contributions to Hawaii's business community; through their entrepreneurial and civic activities, these individuals, named as the Hawaii Business Hall of Fame Laureates, have made a positive impact in their respective business areas; due to their success, they serve as inspirational role models for our youth; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Business Hall of Fame has named Lawrence (Larry) Dennis Rodriguez, Brian I. Kitagawa, and Audrey E. Hidano as the 2015 Laureates; and

## H.R. NO. **75**

WHEREAS, Larry Rodriguez was a former Managing Partner for Ernest & Young, LLP and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Central Pacific Financial Corporation/Central Pacific Bank; he also formed his own business consulting company, Lawrence D. Rodriguez, LLC.; and

WHEREAS, Brian Kitagawa serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer for I. Kitagawa and Company, Ltd., and its various subsidiaries such as Kamaaina Motors, Kamaaina Nissan, and Kona Auto Center and Parts Center Hawaii; he currently serves as President-Elect for the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association and a member of the Chrysler Minority Dealers Association; and

WHEREAS, Audrey Hidano co-founded Grand Development, Inc., Rim-Pac Inc., and Hidano Construction, Inc., all specializing in development, construction, and general contracting services; within these companies, she holds the titles of Vice-President, Secretary, Co-owner, and Treasurer; she also serves as the Deputy Director for the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that this body hereby congratulates Junior Achievement of Hawaii on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of its Hawaii Business Hall of Fame, recognizes their selected laureate honorees for 2015, and extends to them its warmest aloha and best wishes for success in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY:

Fakashi Brom

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